

**Claims**

- 5        1. Steam cycle with a steam generator, adapted to have thermal energy transferred to an operating medium and a power engine adapted to convert the thermal energy comprised in the operating medium to mechanical energy, characterized in that the operating medium contains at least one heterocyclic compound, especially a heterocyclic aromatic compound.
- 10      2. Steam cycle according to claim 1, characterized in that the operating medium is a mixture containing water and heterocyclic aromatic compounds, water being contained in an amount between 5 and 95 percent by weight and the heterocyclic compound in an amount between 5 and 95 percent by weight.
- 15      3. Steam cycle according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the operating medium additionally contains one or more polymers which are mixable with water, surfactant and/or other organic lubricants.
- 20      4. Steam cycle according to any of the foregoing claims, characterized in that the operating medium contains 2-methyl pyridine, 3-methyl pyridine, pyridine, pyrrole and/or pyridazine as a heterocyclic compound.
- 25      5. Steam cycle according to claim 3, characterized in that the polymer is polyethylene glycol or a polyphenyl, especially terphenyl.
6. Use of a heterocyclic aromatic compound, especially 2-methyl pyridine, in an operating medium for a steam cycle according to one of the above claims.